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Attorney Docket No. FR-AM 1904 NP

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Date: July 27 2005

Meleah Scott

(Name of person faxing paper)

(Signature)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : MARTINO-GAUCHI et al. Group Art Unit: (not yet assigned)

Serial No.: 10/537,150 Examiner: (not yet assigned)

Priority Documents: WO 04/052826
PCT/FR03/003599

International Filing Date: 5 December 2003 (05.12.2003)

For: CONTINUOUS METHOD FOR PREPARING ETHYL LACTATE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the specification and claims as follows.

The amendments to the specification begin on page 2.

The amendments to the claims begin on page 3.

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